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EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Buenos Aires

March 19, 1984

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Dr. Luis Maria Paiva  
Vice President, FAMUS

Lic. Maria de Fatima Castellanos  
Member, FAMUS

Deputy Assistant Secretary for South  
America Lowell C. Kilday

J. Anthony Allitto  
Political Officer  
Amembassy Buenos Aires

DATE/PLACE : March 16, 1984, Ambassador Ortiz' Office

SUBJECT : FAMUS (Families of Victims of Terrorism)

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
Exemption(s):  
☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny  
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full  
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to ☐  
Date ☐ Declassify on ☐ Reason ☐

This meeting was arranged to allow Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) Kilday to hear the views of relatives of people who had been killed by terrorists in Argentina's so-called "dirty war". Dr. Paiva explained that FAMUS had been created in 1979. He explained that the main objectives of the organization were to seek justice and to help the victims (by that he meant the people who are still alive but who had suffered because of the death of loved ones; Ms. Castellanos, for example, has been seeing a psychiatrist because of the murder of her father, an Army colonel).

Dr. Paiva explained that the organization was receiving more publicity now than ever before because Argentina has returned to democracy but that the 1,000-member organization was still short of funds and resources. He asked if the U.S. could help by providing funds and information about any increase in subversion in Argentina. DAS Kilday explained that the U.S. would not be able to do either since to do so would be inter-

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fering in the internal affairs of Argentina--something the U.S. Government cannot do.

In reply to DAS Kilday's questions, Dr. Paiva explained that FAMUS did see an increase in certain disturbing activities within Argentina in 1984 although he did not use the word "subversion". He claimed that all the various student factions on the left had banded together and now belonged to the organization called "Franja Morada" (Purple Band). He went on at some length about that organization and its alleged political activities.

Dr. Paiva also mentioned that on March 13 he and the leading officers of FAMUS met with Interior Minister Troccoli to ask the government to create a commission to investigate the deaths of Argentines killed by terrorists just as the Alfonsin government has created a national commission on the disappearance of persons. When asked what Troccoli's response was, Dr. Paiva said that Troccoli did not answer directly but Dr. Paiva was of the opinion that no such commission would be created since Troccoli had explained the difficulties involved.

Ms. Castellanos asked if there were any organizations in the U.S. similar to FAMUS, since, if there are any, FAMUS would like to contact them. Neither DAS Kilday nor Mr. Allitto could think of any, but DAS Kilday asked Mr. Allitto to have Country Officer for Argentina Dennis Jett check and let the Embassy know.

Drafted by: POL:JAAllitto:jmr *JAC*

Cleared by: AMB:FVOrtiz  
DCM:JABushnell *[Signature]*

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